



Ottawa Hull K1A 0C9

(21) (A1) 2,123,868
(22) 1994/05/18
(43) 1995/11/19

(51) INTL.CL.⁵ B60S-009/04

(19) (CA) **APPLICATION FOR CANADIAN PATENT** (12)

(54) Snowmobile Stand

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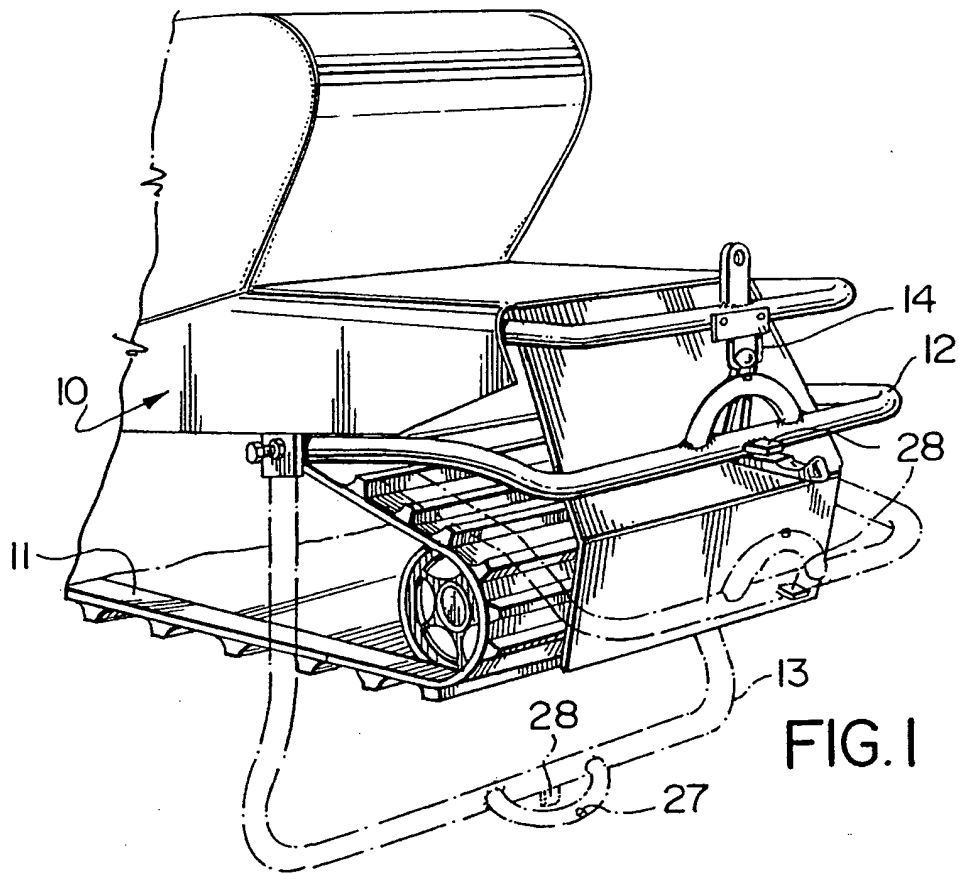
(71) Same as inventor

(57) 4 Claims

Notice: This application is as filed and may therefore contain an incomplete specification.



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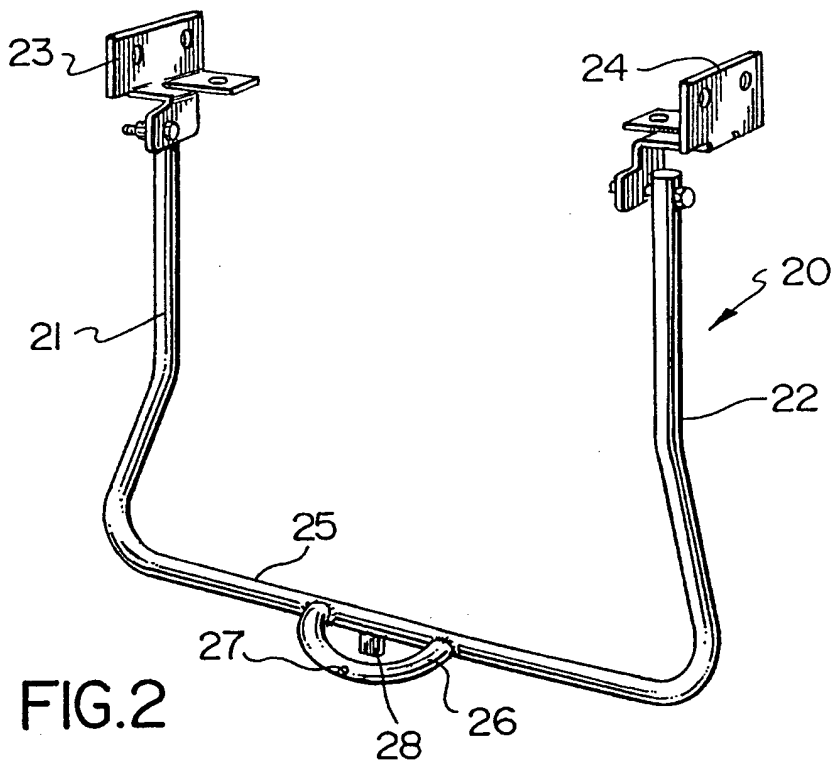


FIG. 2

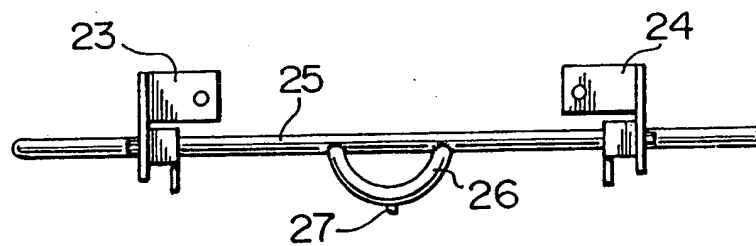


FIG. 3

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SNOWMOBILE STAND

The present invention relates to stands for snowmobiles, and more particularly to stands which are removably attachable to the frame of a snowmobile.

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BACKGROUND OF INVENTION

It is common to lift snowmobiles onto devices which keep the track off the ground for safeguarding, as for instance, in order to avoid freezing to the ground. The same technique is also used to run the track and engine while being suspended in order to eliminate ice that may accumulate on the track.

10

One example of a manually operable stand for suspending off road vehicles is disclosed in Canadian Patent Application No. 2,074,274, which illustrates a telescopic variable height T base stand comprising two hooks to suspend the vehicle. Canadian Patent Application No. 2,060,646 discloses a manually operable jack for lifting snowmobiles off the ground. In this case a lever with a handle is attached to a sliding base allowing for lifting and moving about of the snowmobile.

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In addition, U.S. Patent No. 5,145,154 discloses a lifting device for snowmobiles. The device is here actuated by a pivoted handle bar, controlling a chassis-engaging bracket through a parallelogram linkage.

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As can be appreciated the devices of these prior art patents may not be permanently attached securely to the snowmobile for quick non-cumbersome use at all times and everywhere.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, it is a primary object of the present invention to provide a manually operable stand, for suspending the rear of a snowmobile off the ground, which is permanently attached to the snowmobile for ease of use at any time.

30

Another object of the invention is to provide for a stand which is easily attached to the snowmobile.

The manually operable stand is designed to facilitate maintenance, repairs and storage of the snowmobile by suitably exposing specific area from the ground and therefore allowing free access.

5 In accordance with a preferred embodiment a manually operable stand is disclosed for suspending a snowmobile off the ground comprising: a) two rearwardly extending arms pivotally attachable at their upper end to either side of the snowmobile; b) a cross bar linking said rearwardly extending
10 arms at their free ends; c) means for maintaining said stand in a first, stowed away position; d) means for maintaining said stand in a second, operative position; whereby pivotal movement of the stand allows for the snowmobile to be lifted off the ground and kept stationary.

15 The present invention therefore provides a manually operable stand which is permanently pivotally attached to the rear section of a snowmobile. Arms are spaced about the width of the snowmobile linked by a crossbar, and may be pivoted from a stored position, in which the arms lie approximately
20 rearwardly extending to the horizontal plan of the snowmobile to an operative position in which the arms extend substantially perpendicular to same horizontal plan. The adapted crossbar then offers a base onto which the weight of the snowmobile can rest. A balancing member is provided as
25 well for preventing the stand from going too far forward when in use.

Advantages of the present invention are that the stand is permanently attached to the snowmobile without interfering with the normal use of the snowmobile and its great ease of
30 use in a wide variety of situations.

Further objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following description, reference being made to the accompanying drawings wherein preferred embodiments of the invention are clearly shown.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will be further understood from the following description with reference to the drawings in which:

5 Figure 1 is a side view of a snowmobile rear with the stand attached to it.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the stand.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the stand.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

10 Referring to figures 1 - 3 there is illustrated a snowmobile stand in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. Figure 2 shows a stand 20 comprising two (2) supporting arms 21 and 22 which are spaced apart for attachment on either side of the snowmobile. Brackets 23 and 24 for attachment of the stand 20 are fitted to the snowmobile
15 frame 10. These same brackets 23 and 24 may also be provided with stopping member to prevent overrotating of the stand when in use, the design of such stopping member being obvious to someone skilled in the art. The length of the supporting arms 21 and 22 is sufficient to allow for suspending the track 11
20 off the ground. The supporting arms 21 and 22 are linked together by a crossbar 25 which also serves as a base to support the weight of the snowmobile. The crossbar 25 shows in its mid-section a stopping/supporting member 26 shaped like a handle, which is attached to the crossbar 25, and extends
25 away from it in order to provide a greater support surface, greater stability and greater ease of use. This crossbar member 26 is at an angle approximately equal to 90 degrees relative to the crossbar 25. Attached to the crossbar member 26 is a piece of absorbing material 27, preferably rubber, in
30 order to prevent direct contact with the snowmobile frame 10 when in its upper position 12, i.e. not in use. Also attached to the crossbar member is a protruding member 28 which serves to grip the snow or ice onto which the stand rests for increased stability.

Figure 1 shows a stand as attached to a snowmobile from the upper, not in use, position 12 through the full range of movement downward to its lower position, while in use 13. An attachment member 14 is provided in order to securely
5 attach the stand 20 ,while in its upper position 12, to the frame 10 of the snowmobile when riding about.

Figure 3 simply shows the relative positioning of the different members making up the stand.

10 Although the stand 20 may be made of a variety of materials it is preferable to fabricate it of cast aluminum because of its lightness, sturdiness, and cost.

15 While the form of the apparatus herein described constitutes a preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to this precise form of apparatus, so that changes may be made therein without departing from the scope of the invention.

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A manually operable stand for suspending a snowmobile off the ground comprising:

- a) two rearwardly extending arms pivotally attachable at their upper end to either side of the snowmobile;
- b) a cross bar linking said rearwardly extending arms at their free ends;
- c) means for maintaining said stand in a first, stowed away position;
- d) means for maintaining said stand in a second, operative position;

whereby pivotal movement of the stand allows for the snowmobile to be lifted off the ground and kept stationary.

2. A stand as defined in claim 1 wherein attached to the snowmobile frame is an attachment member for holding the stand in a stowed away position.

3. A stand as defined in claim 1 wherein attached to the crossbar linking said parallel arms is a stopping member at about 90 degrees relative to said crossbar.

4. A stand as defined in claim 1 wherein attached to the crossbar is a protruding member.

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ABSTRACT

5 A manually operable stand for suspending the rear of a snowmobile off the ground. The stand is actuated by pivotally bringing it down, then pulling the snowmobile backwards, while exerting pressure on the back of the stand to achieve lift of snowmobile.